

**California Department of Health Services
Implementing Chapter 241, Statutes of 2006 (SB 162/Ortiz)
ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

The organization of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) provides the structure and resources needed to carry out its mission through the programs under its jurisdiction. SB 162 transfers public health programs to the new California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and renames the California Department of Health Services DHCS. This change does not require the reappointment of the current Director and Chief Deputies of CDHS.

DHCS shares the broad mission to protect and improve the health of all Californians with CDPH. To accomplish this DHCS finances and administers a number of individual health care service delivery programs, including the California Medical Assistance Program (Medi-Cal). These programs

- Provide health care services to low-income persons and families who meet defined eligibility requirements.
- Emphasize prevention-oriented health care programs that promote human health and well-being.
- Ensure access to comprehensive health services using public and private resources.
- Ensure appropriate and effective expenditure of public resources to serve those with the greatest health care needs.

Following this broad outline, the Department's structure organizes the components of Medi-Cal and other health delivery programs. The basic structure follows the direction that the Department proposed in its May 2005 plan to reorganize the Medi-Cal Program, and integrates the Office of Long-Term Care, Children's Medical Services, and Primary and Rural Health Care Systems. The Office of Women's Health will remain in DHCS, and will also provide policy advice on women's health issues to the Director of CDPH pursuant to the provisions of SB 162. This structure streamlines management of complex program components along functional lines. It will improve program policy and operations, increase program integrity, and ensure overall program and public accountability and access. It will provide visibility on important health care delivery issues to providers, local health departments, the federal government, the Legislature, advocates, the press, and the general public. Implementing this organizational structure involves reclassifying and filling existing supervisory and management positions between now and June 30, 2007.

February 7, 2007